



CONGREGATION
RODEPH SHOLOM

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

High Holidays & Festivals 2016 | www.rodephsholom.com | [f rodephsholombridgeport](#)

High Holy Days 5777

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, October 2, 2016

Evening Minyan, Erev Rosh Hashanah
Candlelighting

6:00 p.m.
6:14 p.m.

Monday, October 3, 2016

Rosh Hashanah I
Torah Service
Child Care
Musaf
Tashlich
Evening Minyan, Rosh Hashanah I
Candlelighting

8:30 a.m.
9:50 a.m.
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
11:30 a.m.
4:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Rosh Hashanah II
Torah Service
Child Care
Musaf
Evening Minyan, Rosh Hashanah II
Candlelighting

8:30 a.m.
9:50 a.m.
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
11:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:10 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

Erev Yom Kippur Mincha
Kol Nidre
Candlelighting

1:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Yom Kippur
Child Care
Torah Service
Yizkor
Musaf
Mincha
Neilah
Ma'ariv
Havdalah/Shofar/Fast Ends

9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
10:15 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m.
4:15 p.m.
5:45 p.m.
6:45 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

CONGREGATION RODEPH SHOLOM

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Bridgeport, CT 06604-1499
203-334-0159 • Fax 203-334-1411
www.rodephsholom.com

Affiliated with the
Jewish Theological Seminary and
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Rabbi Emeritus
Executive Director
Hazzan
Ritual Director
President
Gabbai
Men's Club President
Hazzan
Cantor Emeritus
Executive Director Emerita

Israel C. Stein, D.D.
Mark Block, FSA
Niema Hirsch
Irwin Schildkraut
Peter Zeidel
Sy Wiesenfeld
Harold Goodman
Y'shaya Grama z"l
David Leon z"l
Esther Kelman z"l

TASHLICH

"Tashlich" is the Hebrew for "cast away" (referring to the commandment to cast away our sins). In the afternoon of Monday, October 3, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the aquaduct on the corner of Brooklawn and Laurel Avenues for the traditional Tashlich ritual. We visit a body of water to recite the brief Tashlich prayer in which we "cast away" our sins, often symbolized by bread. As fish depend on water, so do we depend on God's providence. Also, as the eyes of a fish never close, so too is God's watchfulness over us unceasing. Please join us for this ancient and beautiful tradition.



MISSION STATEMENT

Congregation Rodeph Sholom is dedicated to two guiding principles:

- To serve as a vibrant center for the practice and teaching of Conservative Judaism.
- To create a spiritual and social atmosphere in which congregants feel part of a larger synagogue family.

IN MEMORIAM

"The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing"

Members:

Laurence Hoffman – July 27, 2016

Member Relatives:

Carol Goldstein – Mother of David Goldstein

June 24, 2016

Sylvia Kaplan – Mother of Ira Kaplan

July 18, 2016

Peter Weiss – Brother of Stanford Weiss

August 4, 2016

Stanley Hutkin – Brother of Sondra Berkman

August 11, 2016

Lois Hertz Lesser – Mother of Stanton Lesser

August 12, 2016

DAILY SERVICES

All services are held in the Bufferd/Vogel Chapel unless otherwise indicated.

Sundays 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Weekdays 7:10 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Friday Evening See Website

Sabbath Morning 9:00 a.m.

Sabbath Mincha Sundown, See Website

For any changes and up-to-date service times,
visit www.rodephsholom.com

SIMCHAS - MAZEL TOV

Helen Weinstein on the birth of a grandson, Asher, to Jeffrey and Katja Weinstein. Asher is the nephew of Kenneth and Richard Weinstein.

Engagement of Jonathan Green, son of Cheryl and Sam Green to Emily Rosenthal. Jonathan is also the grandson of Visselle and Irving Glazer.

Roslyn and David Comen welcome their great grandson, Ryan Shea, to their grandchildren, Jamie and Chris Shea.

Emily Block, daughter of Mark and Ann Block on her appointment to the position of Assistant Director of UConn Hillel.

Jacob Fried, son of Natalie and Steven Fried, on being named a National Merit Scholar semi-finalist. Jacob attends Trumbull High School.

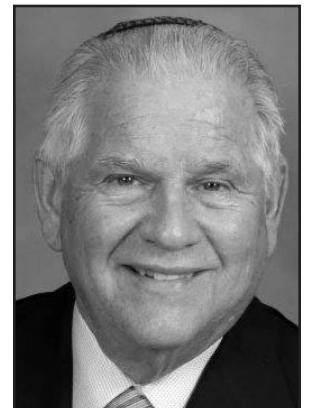
MESSAGE FOR RODEPH SHOLOM

SHALOM FROM RABBI DAVID NELSON

It's been 52 years since my father's death – which was a traumatic event for the congregation and for my family.

Rodeph Sholom flourished under the distinguished leadership of Rabbi Sandy Hahn and Rabbi Izzy Stein. But now, as you face a crossroads in this congregation's history, I am excited and honored to be part of your High Holiday services.

I graduated the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1967 and served two years in Rio de Janeiro, three years in Baltimore, and 36 years at Congregation Beth Shalom in Oak Park, Michigan until I officially retired from a full-time pulpit. For the last ten years I served as part-time rabbi in Bay City, Michigan, and presently at B'nai Shalom in Benton Harbor, Michigan.



There are so many wonderful personal memories of growing up at Rodeph Sholom – that I'm very excited about joining with Hazzan Niema Hirsch to make this High Holiday season one that is memorable and meaningful.

I wish you all a "Shana Tova"! Thomas Wolfe gave us the quote "You can't go home again," but I know that long term friendships last forever. So I see this year as a year of renewed friendship and I hope, for each of you, a year of blessing.

Shana Tova,

Rabbi David Nelson

CEMETERY VISITATIONS

Sunday, September 25, 2016

10:00 a.m.

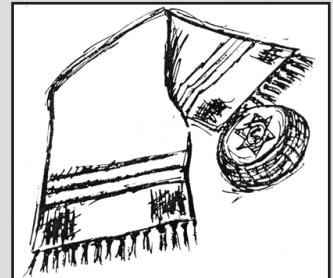
Memorial Park, Kings' Highway, Fairfield

10:30 a.m.

Old Cemetery, Shepard Street, Fairfield

(Minyan needed at the both cemeteries.)

On Kol Nidre, Tuesday, October 11, we are asking that when you come into the sanctuary for services that you NOT don your tallit. There is a special blessing being offered so that we may do so as one people, one community. Thank you.



OPERATION ISAIAH 5777

KOL NIDRE "FAST" FOOD DRIVE

Synagogues all across the country will be participating in Kol Nidre Food Drives. Please fill a bag with nonperishable, packaged food items. Some of the items needed include: Cans of fruit, peanut butter, small (11 oz.) boxes of cereal, canned soups, vegetarian baked beans, cans of tuna fish, two pound boxes of rice, small jars of tomato sauce, grape jelly, small jars of mayonnaise, cans of sardines. Please bring the bag with you when you come to Kol Nidre services on Tuesday, October 11, or you may bring the bags to the synagogue office at any time between now and Kol Nidre evening. Thank you!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY NEW YEAR 5777

PETER ZEIDEL

As we prepare to welcome the New Year, it is a time for us to reflect and to consider how to learn from our experiences of the past to develop a positive path to a secure and peaceful future.

The past two years have been a trying period in the life of our beloved congregation. We have been faced with a number of decisions regarding our future. Do we merge? Do we relocate to JSS? Do we close? Can we reinvigorate ourselves to be the viable and vibrant congregation we want to be? Can we manage our finances in the most responsible way possible to the benefit of all our members? Can we raise sufficient funds to allow us to cover our expenses? What do we do with the vacant space in our building? Do we search for another Interim Rabbi? Do we wait and search for a permanent Rabbi? Is sustained membership growth possible? If so, how do we attract those potential members? And most importantly, will our present membership give leadership the opportunity to develop responses to these questions and will our members take an active role in achieving success?

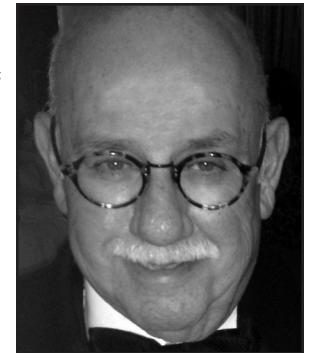
It was encouraging that during this trying period, a large number of our members were active in attending information meetings, expressing their opinions and voting on the options that were presented. Needless to say, emotions ran high. Regardless of your position, everyone felt that they were acting in the best interest of the congregation. Many felt hurt by the actions of others. A number of our members were compelled to resign their leadership and Board of Trustee positions and a few their synagogue membership. A most unfortunate result for which we are all saddened, regret and know that we can and will do better. This congregation needs the commitment and support of everyone to succeed.

But that was the past, and we must focus our attention on the present and future to reinvent Rodeph Sholom to serve the Jewish community in ways which may have been unimaginable just a few years ago – the path to a secure and peaceful future.

Through the efforts of your officers, trustees, staff and many hard working members, we are of the opinion that we are on that path.

Through the efforts of our Finance, Budget and Investment Committees, our finances have been stabilized. Every expense has been or will be reviewed and numerous cost savings on regular budgeted items have been achieved. Our revenue projections for the current fiscal year are conservative and will require a continued and increased level of giving of all members.

Immediately after the High Holy Days and fall festivals, we will begin the critical process of searching for an experienced, committed and learned Rabbi to work along with us to lead us to a brighter future. Our Search Committee will perform the arduous task of screening resumes and conducting initial interviews. Hopefully that process will result in a number of candidates who we will present to the congregation for your consideration.



In the interim, under the leadership of our Gabai Sy Weisenfeld and Ritual Director Irwin Schildkraut, our Shabbat and daily services are in very capable hands.

As I hope you are all aware by now, Rabbi David Nelson, a son of this congregation will be joining us for the High Holy Days. Rav David will inspire us with his leadership and bring a level of nostalgia to our sanctuary while pointing us to the days ahead.

We are so pleased that Niema Hirsch has joined our congregation as Hazzan and music director. Niema will be leading us during the holidays and festivals, as well as, numerous Shabbat services throughout the coming year. We are confident that Niema's voice and commitment to our congregation will be a calling for increased participation in our services as she engages us in song, melody and ruach.

We are actively marketing the vacant classroom space. We are encouraged by the interest we have received and are reasonably confident that we will have a new source of revenue.

Our programming efforts have been well received and we are pleased with the increasing participation of our members and the community at-large.

During the last months of her tenure with us, Rabbi Levin conducted two very well received programs for the Board of Trustees. These sessions provoked us to consider our leadership responsibilities and how we can best achieve the goals and even reevaluate the mission of our congregation. We are making arrangements to continue and expand these programs under the guidance of the United Synagogue.

All of the aforementioned could not have been accomplished without the efforts of a truly committed team of officers, trustees and staff. We owe them a hearty Yasher Koach!

Now friends, "And most importantly, will our present membership give leadership the opportunity to develop responses to these questions and will our members take an active role in achieving success?" Will you? If the

answer is anything but yes, we have limited opportunity to again be the viable and vibrant congregation I know we all want. If you will not participate, who will? All that we are attempting to achieve is not just for us or for you, but to create a house of worship, study and congregation that serves a greater segment of the Jewish community. Your answer must be yes!

On behalf of your officers, trustees and staff and from Judy and me, our best wishes for a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year, one in which each of us has the opportunity to fulfill our dreams.

In the words of Chaim Stern, "May we in our common need gain strength from one another, sharing our joys, lightening each other's burdens, and praying for the welfare of our community."

L'Shana Tova,

Peter Zeidel

SAVE THE DATE

September 28 @ 2:00 p.m.:
AARP Fraud Watch.



November 9 @ 1:30 p.m.:
Post-Election Discussion –
Dr. Donald W. Greenberg,
Professor of Politics, Emeritus – Fairfield University.

November 12 @ 9:00 a.m.: Annual Veterans' Shabbat.

Movie Festival – Collaborative screenings with B'nai Torah. September 22 @ 7:30 p.m. (BT), November 14 @ 7:00 p.m. (RS), December 14 @ 7:00 p.m. (BT), January 29 @ 2:00 p.m. (RS), February 19 @ 2:00 p.m. (RS), March 8 @ 7:00 p.m. (BT).

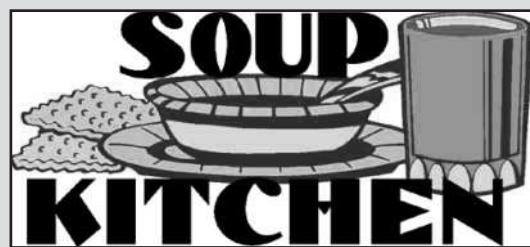
November 15 @ 7:00 p.m.: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Islam but Never Asked – Ahmed M. Ebrahim, Ph.D., CPA, CMA – Fairfield University.

November 28 @ 7:30 p.m.: Kulano Lemba at Beth El – Collaborative program with B'nai Torah, Beth El and Federation of Jewish Philanthropy.

December 6 @ 7:00 p.m.: Who Was a Jew? The Emergency of Jewish Identity – Jeffrey Shoulson, Ph.D. - Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies - Director, Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life – University of Connecticut.

JUST THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW!

Rodeph Sholom recently cooked and served 117 people this summer at St. John's church soup kitchen. The food included meatballs in tomato sauce, baked burgers in gravy, rice, mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, corn on the cob, lots of fresh salad, terrific bread from Billy's bakery, iced cold water and hot coffee, cake and peaches for dessert. We thank all those who came down to the soup kitchen to help those in need. We will next be helping out in November. We'll be sure you know the date.



DEAR CONGREGATION RODEPH SHOLOM,

Thank you for opening your doors for our community health screening in your community this past spring. It is because of your generosity that Life Line Screening continues to be able to bring these health screenings into your area and for that, we are very appreciative.

We look forward to working together again!

We appreciate all your help and support with hosting this community outreach event.

Sincerely,

Barbara Church



KEEPING PACE WITH CHANGING TIMES

MARK BLOCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FSA

During a time when we are actively looking to bring together our Jewish traditions with modernity, new and different models for the practice of Conservative Judaism create a challenge. One in which we must adapt to changing ways of prayer, demographics and affiliation rates as we look to transform our synagogue. In essence, as has been said before, the old way doesn't work anymore...a new way must be charted.

As I have traveled to other communities across the country in my role as a board member of NAASE (North American Association of Synagogue Executives) I have seen magnificent synagogue buildings that were erected as the Jews of the twentieth-century celebrated their achievements and conveyed the success of the community they served. I also know that synagogues staff and operations often became correspondingly large, and were supported mostly by member dues. While synagogue attendance may not have been frequent, it was certainly larger, more cohesive, and active in almost all communities in North America than what we see today. Members paid dues out of a sense of Jewish and communal obligation, and it was often viewed as an important symbol of affiliation with their local Jewish community.

What I find interesting today are many more members of the Jewish community value personal choice over communal obligation. These Jews identify with spirituality in its various forms over organized prayer. The synagogue as a house of worship, study and community means so much less to so many more than a generation ago. When Jews "shop" for a synagogue they do so with a value set based on the needs of their family and themselves, and those needs are often quite narrow and very specific. These "shoppers" have been raised on a department store and Amazon.com frame of mind, meaning many are used to having continuous sales all year long. Not a week goes by where there aren't 50%, 70% or more discounts on merchandise. Free online shipping is expected, returns are anticipated at no charge, and who doesn't do an internet search on the price of an item before purchasing from a brick and mortar store?

In this still young century, choices for spiritual or religious pursuit are much greater than at any time in history. Conservative American Jews who find a need or want to affiliate with a synagogue are just as interested in the varied aspects of Jewish life as their parents or grandparents who may have been more active participatory members of their own synagogue. I also believe the argument can be made that the difference in engaging to make the world a better

place or simply being a better Jew takes place in a more disengaged world. A world where texting and tweeting, emailing and posting are regular forms of communication and engagement. In other words, worlds where you can be as anonymous as you choose and have to put forth a greater effort to be seen. We live in a historically fast moving and rapidly changing and expanding technology and communication revolution. Steep and increasing decline of print newspaper, magazine and book subscriptions is the norm, streaming shows and movies is expected, and our world seems to come to a crash if we lose our internet or cable service.



Not long ago most young and many older Jews responded to the call for charitable contributions and volunteerism from the synagogue in a philanthropic way because they knew that not doing so imperiled the house of worship they had built. We have experienced a measure of that this year, and are grateful for the generous support. Having said that, today I am more likely to hear about contributions to parks or public television, disaster relief or presidential campaigns, and

not a week goes by where there isn't a walk or bike for one cause or another. I have seen the demand for dollars dilute the institutions and organizations which previous generations most readily identified with because of their ethnicity, heritage or social standing—in particular, the synagogue.

Some might say it is harder than ever for me to make the case that your dues, donations, contributions and greater levels of support are critically important. I would disagree. While the clutter of "asks" are seemingly endless, the cause and mission of Rodeph Sholom are clear, and many have responded more generously than in all the years I have been in the director's office combined. What is more difficult is we have fewer numbers to reach out to today. The cause is the same and remains important – what has been decentralized are the personal commitment to retain the identity of our house of worship. These are powerful headwinds for any synagogue to be successful, whether fiscally, programmatically or spiritually. And yet for all of the upheaval these past few years we are here working diligently to ensure fiscal responsibility, positive experiences and working as hard as possible to say to our children and grandchildren, we made a difference. We did the work that needed to be done to transform Rodeph Sholom, to ensure its health, to engage in the noble pursuit of Jewish values to service the community.

It can be said that in 2016 the business model is out of step with a membership that is primarily interested in lifecycle events, High Holiday services, and the

occasional program associated with a holiday or festival during the year, whether that be Chanukah, Purim, Passover or one of the others. Our synagogue like so many other synagogues must map its own destination, and there are no shortcuts to getting there.

The primary responsibility of a religious institution such as ours is to be a house of worship, where we inspire involvement to meet the mission and goals upon which we were founded and look to advance. Our synagogue, like others, ultimately can't last unless we fill a particular need and keep our costs in line with the revenue we generate. We can engage in doing this better by recognizing and anticipating the religious, spiritual, communal and social interests of our members and potential affiliates. We can also begin to redesign our institution to better respond to the interests of those same people both imaginatively and effectively, and we should never stop questioning all the rest. The evolution won't be easy, but the alternative is obsolescence.

As the New Year approaches, 5777, may we find the strength to do more, the wisdom to do it well, and the belief that in so doing we are doing right by ourselves and our children.

L'shalom and L'shanah Tova!

Mark Block

We want to welcome CadyShack Bridge Club to Rodeph Sholom. This local bridge group meets Thursday's and Friday's from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for contract bridge. Coordinated by Joan Martin and Robert Rising, players are always welcome. Just give the office a call and we will pass your name on to be contacted. With 10-14 table going at any one time players certainly have the opportunity to enjoy the game and camaraderie.



TORAH FUND

WOMEN ENSURING CONSERVATIVE/MASORTI JEWISH EDUCATION

Last year's Torah Fund campaign yielded \$4,740. We are so proud of our accomplishment and thank the following women for making this possible, supporting education for the next generation of leadership in the Conservative Movement.

GUARDIANS

Julie Rappoport
Lisa Rappoport

BENEFACTORS

Deborah Baer
Marilyn Banach
Carol Battin
Beattie Bernstein
Gertrude Broder

Tamara Bush
Andrea Feinberg
Toby Folman
Susan Forman
Cheryl Green
Susan Kaplan
Edith Katzen
Iris Krawitz
Gracey Oksenberg

Marilyn Rappoport
Marion Richer
Susan Spivack
Barbara Srebnick
Roz Stein
Lisa Stein
Svetlana Weisman
Judy Weiss
Judy Zeisler

But as Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:21 says, "You are not expected to complete the task, but neither are you free to avoid it". So we are beginning our campaign for 5777. Please send your pledge to:

Lisa Rappoport 413 Sky Top Drive Fairfield, CT 06825	or Roz Stein 3200 Park Avenue, Unit 3F1 Bridgeport, CT 06604
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or drop it off at the synagogue office. Again, we thank those who contributed last year and hope to increase our number of Benefactors and Guardians in the coming year.

L'shanah Tova ,

Lisa, Selda, Debbie, Sue & Roz



PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

CAROL S. WEINSHEL, V.P., PROGRAM AND MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the upcoming programs at Rodeph Sholom and thank you for supporting the ones that have come and gone.

We are very excited to bring Sam Glaser to the Bridgeport, Trumbull, Fairfield area during the weekend of December 2-3-4. This is yet another opportunity for collaboration and among Rodeph Sholom, B'nai Torah and Beth El and with the help of the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy; we have received a grant for \$1000. The big event of the weekend will be a concert (preceded by Havdalah) in our Sanctuary on Saturday, December 3. You won't want to miss it.

We honored our Culinary Kiddush Queens at a special Shabbat on September 10th. Our heartfelt thanks to Edith Winick, Dottie Blank, Miriam/Rusty Madwed and their team (Erica Cohen, Jill Lesser, Marcy Gollinger, Marion Richer, Toby Folman, Ellen Bedford, Janice Levy, Sue Forman, Sy Wiesenfeld) for everything they do to make our Shabbat and Festival Kiddush's warm, welcoming and delicious!

We welcome back our member, Marcie Slepian who will enlighten us through her talk, *Looking at Jewish Life in Renaissance Italy through Illustrated Manuscripts*, on Sunday, September 25.

Yet again, we are trying to help our congregants and friends to remain safe by presenting Fraud Alert sponsored by AARP on September 28. We are fortunate to have our member, Mike Klein, as a co-presenter.

We will be hosting a pre-Rosh Hashanah dinner on Friday, September 30, co-chaired by Helaine Alper and Judy Zeidel. This will be a wonderful way to meet Rabbi David Nelson and Niema Hirsch as we usher in the holidays and to give those who are preparing for the holiday a break from the kitchen!

We are busy; we've been meeting, planning, coordinating and presenting programs. As always, I welcome your input, your help and above all, your attendance. Remembering we are family, it takes more than just a few people to do the job; rather, a lot of people doing a little makes it more fun!

On behalf of Michael and myself, we wish you all a happy and healthy new year, one in which we can enjoy peace and harmony.

RODEPH SHOLOM PARTICIPATES IN DEDICATION OF SHU JORGE BERGOGLIO HALL

Sacred Heart University officially dedicated its new residence hall, Jorge Bergoglio Hall, to Pope Francis at a ceremony featuring guest speaker and close friend to the pope, Rabbi Abraham Skorka of Buenos Aires. Mark Block, Executive Director was invited to participate in representing the Jewish community in the blessing of the building along with members of the community rabbinate. As a graduate of SHU, Mark was actively involved in the strategic planning for the university as President of the SHU Council of Graduate Students.

Fr. Anthony Ciorra, assistant vice president for Mission & Catholic Identity, mentioned many things that made the day special. "We're especially honored on this day to offer a communal blessing," Ciorra said. Ciorra noted that having the Jewish community put forward a

blessing on a building named after the pope would have never happened 50 years ago. "This is highly significant and not to be taken lightly," Ciorra said.



Skorka, who is no stranger to SHU, is a personal friend of the pope. The duo co-authored a book, and Skorka was one of the first people the pope called when he learned of his appointment to lead the Catholic Church. A little over a week before the dedication ceremony, Skorka emailed the pope telling him about his trip to Connecticut to bless the new hall, the pope responded in kind.

Sacred Heart University, the second-largest independent Catholic university in New England, offers more than 70 undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and certificate programs.

NOTES FROM NIEMA

NIEMA HIRSCH, HAZZAN

"The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. —Elie Wiesel

Elie Wiesel, of blessed memory, reminds us that love and hate are not that far apart. Because with both love and hate you acknowledge the existence of other persons. You see the others and feel their presence. Only when showing complete indifference to other persons do they cease to exist. I would expand this quote to encompass our relationship with God. You can chant the Shema prayer and V'ahavta and love God with all your might and all your soul, or you can be angry at God. But for God's sake, please don't be indifferent.

This is a time of transition in the Jewish calendar from year 5776 to year 5777. We see the transition in nature as the weather changes from summer to fall. And in my Stratfield school neighborhood in Fairfield, many little children are walking back to school. Any transition, be it the fall season, or changing an occupation, or possibly a transition to a new home or a new marital status can be a welcome change or it can be confusing. Or both. For me, making the transition to Rodeph Sholom is a welcome change. After longer than a decade at Beth El as an educator and cantor, I look forward to starting a new relationship at Rodeph Sholom. It is exciting to meet new people and fascinating to adjust to a slightly different approach to Jewish observance. It would be an awesome experience to find my voice in this gorgeous sanctuary that had known so many amazing voices over the year.

We learn from the Chassidic master that in the month before Rosh Hashanah, "the king is in the field." In this month of Elul God is more accessible than ever. He is waiting for us to greet him; he is there for us in the "field" of our everyday lives. We add Psalm 27 to the daily prayer. The Psalm opens with "God in my light and my salvation" and the whole mood of the Psalm is one of yearning to come closer to God. Strengthening our faith that God can and will remove obstacles to approaching him if we are coming to pray with sincerity. Thus the Psalmist is preparing us to pray with kavanah (intention) during the Day of Awe, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



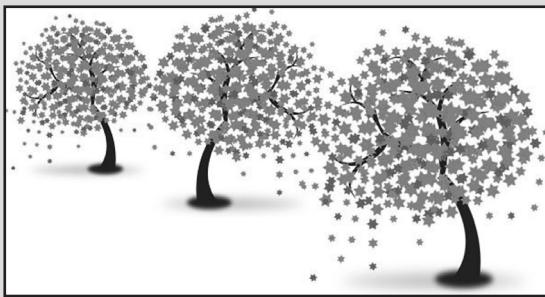
I pray that God will continue to bless this holy congregation. I pray that you will accept me as your leader and that our voices join together with the traditional melodies of the holidays. I pray that God will accept our deepest wishes for good life, for health, happiness and success. I pray that we direct our hearts towards God and request with great humility that the New Year will be, indeed, a sweet one.

Shannah Tovah u'Metukah,

Niema Hirsch

PLANT A TREE

Planting trees through JNF to recognize or memorialize family, friends and loved ones is a time-honored link to the land of Israel. For as little as \$18, a tree will be planted for you in Israel by Jewish National Fund, and a beautiful certificate will be sent to the person of your choice. We offer this service in cooperation with JNF. Stop by the synagogue office or call 203-334-0159. You can also email afriedberg@rodephsholom.com. When you support JNF you become a partner with the people and the land of Israel.



CULINARY KITCHEN QUEENS

On Saturday, September 10, a fabulous Shabbat service served as the backdrop to honor our Culinary Kiddush Queens. Nearly 70 people attended an uplifting morning. The sanctuary was electric with the sweet and spiritual prayers led by Hazzan Niema Hirsch. The congregation was honored to host the most unexpected guests, former Senator Joseph and Hadassah Lieberman. They both expressed how warm and welcoming the congregation is to newcomers and enjoyed the opportunity to socialize and speak with our members at the Kiddush following services. Senator Lieberman honored us by taking an Aliyah. For our volunteers and our congregation, this was a Shabbat to remember.



HOLIDAY AND FESTIVAL SERVICES 5777



SUKKOT

Sunday, October 16, 2016

Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	5:52 p.m.

Monday, October 17, 2016

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:50 p.m.

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Havdalah	6:55 p.m.

HOL HAMOED

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Shacharit	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.

Thursday, October 20, 2016

Shacharit	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.

Friday, October 21, 2016

Shacharit	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.
Candlelighting	5:55 p.m.

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Shacharit (Including the reading of Kohelet/Ecclesiastes)	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.
Havdalah	6:50 p.m.

HOSHANA RABBA

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Shacharit	8:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	5:42 p.m.



SHEMINI ATZERET

Monday, October 24, 2016

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
(Yizkor & Dedication of Memorial Plaques)	
Mincha/Ma'ariv	
(Simchat Torah Evening Celebration with Dancing and Singing)	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:40 p.m.

SIMCHAT TORAH

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Havdalah	6:39 p.m.



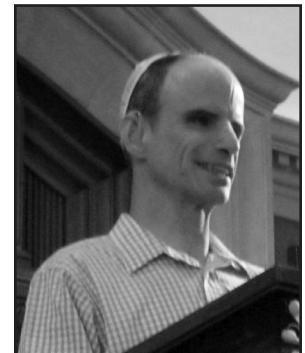
DAVID GOLDSTEIN

HATAN TORAH (SIMCHAT TORAH - LAST ALIYAH)

David Goldstein of Bridgeport serves on Rodeph Sholom's Ritual Committee. David says that the upcoming honor of an Aliyah for the last verses of the Torah is another of the many special moments that have stemmed from ten years of involvement at Rodeph Sholom. "It wasn't long after I started coming and realized how open people were and the potential of the shul's listening system that I became eager to fill in gaps in my Jewish education. After a year of study David was ready to lead a Shabbat Torah service with family, friends and congregants. Since that time, David has been part of the team reading haftarah and other portions using braille.

David is a graduate of Manhattanville College, where he studied Greek and Latin. In 1979 he was one of three recipients of Learning Ally's Scholastic Achievement Award, presented at the White House. He later earned a Master's degree in Literature from the American University, Washington, D.C.

David is director of the National Resource center for Blind Musicians at Neighborhood Studios, a school of the arts in Bridgeport. He helps people of all ages find the tools and strategies that enable them to pursue music, for school, college-level study, or recreation. Thanks to his web site and internationally read magazine before that, he is sought out around the world. His latest project is preparing for publication a book of poems by the late deaf-blind writer Robert Smithdas.



David has been to Israel several times with family. He keeps up with a school in Petah Tikva for blind children and a therapeutic horseback riding center in Afula. Besides reading and correspondence, he enjoys the outdoors and is a bit of a collector.

As David says, "I have never before experienced being a part of a community that I continue to find at Rodeph Sholom. I truly am honored".

MIRIAM MADWED

KALLAH BERESHIT (SIMCHAT TORAH HONOR – FIRST ALIYAH)

Sidney and I moved from Shelton to Fairfield in 1959 when we became members of Congregation Rodeph Sholom. We have four children, Bert, Susan, Mark and Sarah - all of whom graduated from the Talmud Torah and Hebrew High School. We have ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I was employed at the University of Bridgeport for thirty years with my final position being Director of Admissions for the College of Naturopathic Medicine.

I am a life member of both Hadassah and the Jewish Home for the Elderly (JSS), as well as a member of our Women of Rodeph Sholom (Sisterhood). I am a proud recipient of the Shem Tov award. At Rodeph Sholom I attend the daily morning minyan and volunteer wherever needed, most often preparing in the kitchen

for the Kiddush and special occasions. A former member of the Board of Trustees for many years, I served as chairperson for both the Education and Youth Committees, and was a member of the Program Committee. I was the founding chairperson of Merkaz, the Jewish Community High School. In the past I volunteered with Sid at Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Camp, been a reader to the school children and Meals on Wheels both locally and in Baltimore.



My greatest enjoyment is my family. I also enjoy reading, playing bridge, gardening, and senior center activities.

Rodeph Sholom has been an integral part of our family, and I thank you for the honor of Kallah Bereshit bestowed upon me.

Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well. – Voltaire

The Women of Rodeph Sholom recently made an exceptional and generous financial contribution to our congregation. This contribution has been earmarked for programming needs in the months ahead. We thank our women for their leadership and love of our synagogue.



Milestone Anniversaries

We congratulate the following couples on their anniversaries both past and upcoming!

September

Sigmar & Lois Schoenhorn	66 years
Fred & Marsha Gruder	62 years
Arthur & Rosalind Friedman	61 years
Allan & Helaine Alper	47 years
Michael & Norma Passo	46 years
David & Diane Newman	38 years
Michael & Judith Fleischer	36 years
Cary & Laura Friedman	33 years
Bill & Barbara Markowitz	33 years
Benjamin Schultz & Chyai Mulberg	32 years
Morris & Cindy Allinson	32 years
Gene & Beth Gold	29 years

October

Leonard & Phyllis Feinberg	69 years
Ernest & Ethel Tischler	63 years
William & Diane Serlin	52 years
Ron & Debbie Sheiman	45 years
John & Dawne Powers	26 years
Milton & Ann Armm	25 years

November

Ray & Helen Lobovits	70 years
Joel & Barbara Friend	61 years
Marty & Hinda Wolf	60 years
Arnold & Erica Cohen	45 years
Joseph & Marsha Goldman	43 years
Israel & Paula Hersh	35 years
Bill & Lisa Rappaport	32 years
Don & Jody Kramer	25 years
Austin & Ellen Wolf	16 years

**MAZAL TOV TO ALL THESE COUPLES
FROM ALL OF US AT RODEPH SHOLOM.**



Note: Marion and Stanley Richer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary earlier this year.

LULAVIM & ETROGIM

Once again, you may purchase high quality lulav and etrog sets from Rodeph Sholom. We will ensure that our members may celebrate the joyous festival of Sukkot with the traditional ritual objects. We will also have sets of Hoshanot – willow branches, which are used during services on Hoshana Raba. To be certain to get a lulav and etrog this year, please return this form with your check for \$60 no later than Wednesday, October 5th. Please call the synagogue office at 203-334-0159 for delivery and pick-up information.



Name _____

Number of Sets _____

Amount Enclosed _____

We invite you to join us for our annual

Community Slichot Gathering

Saturday, September 24, 2016

Congregation B'nai Israel,
Bridgeport

With special guest speaker:

David Weisberg

Executive Director,
Federation for Jewish Philanthropy
of Upper Fairfield County



8:00 pm- *Hardalah*

8:15 pm- *David Weisberg—The world's
birthday is coming up. What gifts might we give it?*

9:45 pm- *Slichot services with area*

Rabbis and Cantors

CONTRIBUTIONS, REMEMBRANCES & CONGRATULATIONS

ADELLE & MYRON ALPER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In Honor of:

Sam Weinshel on his Bar Mitzvah
Helaine & Allan Alper

In Memory of:

Lois Lesser
Helaine & Allan Alper

FANNIE & ABE BERKOWITZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In Honor of:

The Marriage of Jillian and Tzach Toledo
Iris Krawitz

MORT BERNSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND
Donation from:

Beattie Bernstein
Bernice Resnick

In Honor of:

Helen Wasserman on her birthday
Bernice Resnick

In Memory of:

Edna Hoffman
Beattie Bernstein
Annette Gelber
Bernice Resnick

Larry Hoffman
Bernice Resnick
Annette Gelber

Anna Lieff

Albert Singer

Irving J. Singer

Sadie Singer

Shiela Lieff

HOFFMAN FAMILY FUND
In Memory of:

Edna Hoffman
Beattie Bernstein
Bernice Resnick
Seth Weingarten

Larry Hoffman
Ellen & Sam Rost

MINYAN BREAKFAST
Donation from:

Larry Kahn

In Honor of:

Richard and Dorothy Blank on the
Marriage of their granddaughter
Joseph Schwartz and Diana Rich on their
Marriage
Miriam Madwed

In Memory of:
Sidney Madwed
Miriam Madwed

SYNAGOGUE FUND
Donation from:

Howard and Diane Aaron
Ann & Mark Block
Robert Paul Cohen
Rosalyn Pomeraniec
Michael & Carol Weinshel
Charles Zegar & Merryl Snow
Judith Zeidel

In Appreciation of:

Iris Krawitz and the Executive Committee
& Board of Trustees

Cheryl Green
The Board of Directors
Lois & Sigmar Schoenhorn

In Honor of:

Jonathan Green and Emily Rosenthal on
their engagement

Cheryl & Samuel Green
Joseph Schwartz & Diana Rich's Wedding

Richard & Dorothy Blank
Sally Burstein

Robert & Toby Folman
Larry & Clara Kahn
Robert Jacobson

Barbara & Leonard Srebnick

Ernie Tischler on the 75th Anniversary of
his Bar Mitzvah

Debbie & David
Lesa & Al
Denise & Steve

Leon Spivack's Birthday
Paul Block

Steve & Arlene Tuchband on
their 50th Anniversary

Robyn & David Winograd

In Memory of:

Robert Adler
Joan & Stanley Carp
Donald August

Mark Nitikman
Donald August Trust

Esther Carp

Sarah Carp

Joan & Stanley Carp
Rita Diamond
Michael & Carol Weinshel

Ethel Elson

Edward Elson
Miriam Madwed
Carol Goldstein
Michael & Carol Weinshel

Edna Hoffman

Robert Jacobson
Dena Schneider Green

Larry Hoffman

Robert Jacobson

Sylvia Kaplan

Robert Jacobson

Bradd & Syrene Robbins

Michael & Carol Weinshel

Lois Hertz Lesser

Joan & Stanley Carp

Robert & Toby Folman

Niema Hirsch

Bradd & Syrene Robbins

Carolyn Sherman

Judy & Peter Zeidel

Rose Schless

Heather & Sheldon Gershman

Beverly Schultz

Robert Jacobson

Bradd & Syrene Robbins

Karen Sanger

William Stark

Karen Sanger

Peter Weiss

Evie & Sidney Weisner

WEINSHEL FAMILY FUND
In Honor of:

Irving Fleischer

Cheryl Green

Mila Nishball

Michael & Carol Weinshel

In Memory of:

Rita Diamond

Caryl Goldstein

Sylvia Kaplan

Lois Lesser

Abraham Weintraub

Michael & Carol Weinshel

YAHRZEITS
In Memory of:

Suzy Abboudi

Gracey Oksenberg

Sandy Adler

Joan & Stanley Carp

Oded Aloni

Gabriella Dober

Adelle Alper

Myron Alper

Allan & Helaine Alper

Sally Winnick Altman

Lois Schoenhorn

Ed Auerbach

Renee A. Beitman

Bernard Bauman

Ruth Mayer

Caroline Bauman

Janet Levi

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Renee A. Beitman	Dorothy Hurwitz	Judith Kisselstein
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Harold Bufferd	Edith Winick	Gary Rome
Janis Bufferd	Paul Kaufman	Phyllis Rome Zuckerman
Sidney Carp	David Kaufman	Norman Rothstein
Sylvia Carp	Max Kiner	Dr. Leonard Feinberg
Joan & Stanley Carp	William Kiner	Frederick Sabsowitz
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Mikhail Liderman	Lawrence & Agnes Roberts	Edward Sax
Carol Davis	Adam Kreiger	Lawrence Sax
Selma Cohen	Shelley G. Kreiger	Dorothy Schipior
Eliot Dober	Louis Ladinsky	Pearl Levy
Frances Dober	Selma Ballon Ladinsky	Sophie Secor
Phyllis Dober	Gertrude Broder	Marjorie Spofford
Marcy Gollinger	Morris Lebowitz	Geraldine Sherman
Aaron Eimas	Joy Whitman	Donald Sherman
Lillian Eimas	Benjamin Levy	Benjamin Moshe Shmuel
Dr. Joanne L. Miller	Pearl Levy	Isaak & Eva Goldman
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Lois Fagan	Mikhail Liderman	Lois R. Fagan
Eleanor Feinberg	Sadie B. London	Felix Skott
Dr. Leonard Feinberg	Frances Spivack	Allen & Dee Skott
Rita D. Sheiman	Anna Mandel	Rose Sloves
Ronald & Deborah Sheiman	Henry Mandel	Wallace Sloves
Jack Feinberg	Gabriella & David Dober	Sylvia Spivack
Rose Feinberg	Edith Winick	Leon Spivack
Samuel Feinberg	Marvin Mankowitz	Susan Spivack
Rita Sheiman	Phyllis Mankowitz	Michael & Carol Weinshel
Milton Friedberg	Harvey Medlinsky	Dora Stern
Ainsley Friedberg	Martin Wolf	Samuel Stern
Harry Gaberman	Henry Mendelson	Lili Trakhtenbroit
Barbara & Harvey Gaberman	Marcia Handelman	Mikhail Liderman
Samuel Gallup	Sidney Meyer	Ida Weiner
Wallace Sloves	Allen & Dee Skott	Morris Weiner
Sylvia Rosenbloom Gellman	Victor Nishball	Lois R. Fagan
Milton & Betty Rosenbloom	Mila Nishball	Charles Weingarten
David Glantz	Berl Oksenberg	Dr. Seth Weingarten
Sylvia & Michael Nahoum	Charles Oksenberg	Fruma Weisman
Charles Glazer	Norma Pinto	Hassia Weisman
Hyman Glazer	Gracey Oksenberg	Hayyim Weisman
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Abe Goldbloom	Melissa Rainville	Dr. Benjamin Weisman
Bernice Goldbloom	Janis Bufferd	David Wiesenfeld
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Felice Resko	Norman Rappoport	Daisy Wolf
Anna Gostola	Marilyn Rappoport	Austin Wolf
Richard & Dorothy Blank	Morris Richer	Martin Wolf
Minnie Green	Marion & Stanley Richer	Dr. Louis Zucker
Samuel Green	Bettie Roberts	Dr. Jonas & Pearl Zucker
Sally Isenberg	Lawrence Roberts	Benedict Zwecker
Dolores Ward	Marion Robinson	Charles Zwecker
Gayle Israel	Jeffrey Robinson	
Seymour Israel	Beatrice Rock	

Donations received after September 12, 2016 will appear in the next bulletin.

Congregation Rodeph Sholom

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"Some consider Sam Glaser to be the hardest working man in Jewish music today. With over 20 albums under his belt and his annual fifty city concert tour which plays for over 100,000 fans, we think that Sam has earned the title."

-Jewish Music Group Online.

Sam Glaser comes to Eastern Fairfield County the weekend of December 2-4.

The weekend highlight is a community concert (preceded by Havdalah) in our Sanctuary, Saturday, December 3. More information will be coming!

Rodeph Sholom, in collaboration with Congregations B'nai Torah and Beth El and the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy, is sponsoring this event. We encourage you to save the dates.